

Secondary Containment and Interstitial Monitoring

All new and replacement UST systems installed after November 28, 2007 must have secondary containment [135.3(9)],” and “be checked for evidence of a release at least every 30 days” [135.3(9)e.(3)].

We have noticed some secondary containment systems installed after the above date are not conducting monthly monitoring. Many systems are conducting monthly monitoring with an ATG system or SIR. This is well and good, however, interstitial monitoring is required for these systems. Interstitial monitoring must be a primary or at least an active method of monthly leak detection.

Interstitial monitoring may be conducted continuously as with a sensor, vacuum, pressure, liquid or it may be conducted manually (observation/sticking the interstice). If UDCs, and all other containment sumps do not have continuous automatic monitoring, they must be manually inspected at least monthly and documented. We will have available next week on our website a couple monitoring forms for owners and operators to use in order to document monthly interstitial monitoring.

Tom Collins
Environmental Specialist
Underground Storage Tank Section
Land Quality Bureau
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Tom.Collins@dnr.iowa.gov
Phone: 515.281.8879 Fax: 515.281.8895